

SENATE RECORD VOTE ANALYSIS

105th Congress
1st Session

Vote No. 106

June 18, 1997, 5:31 pm
Page S-5924 Temp. Record

DEATH SENTENCE AND VETERANS BENEFITS/Final Passage

SUBJECT: A bill to deny veterans benefits to persons convicted of Federal capital offenses . . . S. 923. Final passage, as amended.

ACTION: BILL PASSED, 98-0

SYNOPSIS: As amended and passed, S. 923 will enact the following provision: "Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a person who is convicted of a Federal capital offense is ineligible for benefits provided to veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States pursuant to title 38, United States Code."

Those favoring final passage contended:

Current Federal law denies veterans benefits to veterans who are convicted of certain Federal crimes, including sabotage, treason, and sedition, but not including murder. This gap in the current law allows Timothy McVeigh, who was just convicted of murder in the Oklahoma City bombing (168 people died in that bombing, including 19 children, and hundreds more were injured), to remain eligible for veterans benefits, including burial benefits. It would be a slap in the face to all veterans who have served honorably to allow the perpetrator of the largest, most heinous terrorist attack in United States history to be buried in a military cemetery, at taxpayer expense, alongside people who gave their lives defending America. This bill will close the loophole by denying all veterans benefits to people who are convicted of Federal capital offenses. This bill should pass unanimously.

No arguments were expressed in opposition to final passage.

YEAS (98)				NAYS (0)		NOT VOTING (2)	
Republican (55 or 100%)		Democrats (43 or 100%)		Republicans (0 or 0%)	Democrats (0 or 0%)	Republicans (0)	Democrats (2)
Abraham	Hutchinson	Akaka	Inouye				Daschle- ⁴
Allard	Hutchison	Baucus	Kennedy				Johnson- ⁴
Ashcroft	Inhofe	Biden	Kerrey				
Bennett	Jeffords	Bingaman	Kerry				
Bond	Kempthorne	Boxer	Kohl				
Brownback	Kyl	Breaux	Landrieu				
Burns	Lott	Bryan	Lautenberg				
Campbell	Lugar	Bumpers	Leahy				
Chafee	Mack	Byrd	Levin				
Coats	McCain	Cleland	Lieberman				
Cochran	McConnell	Conrad	Mikulski				
Collins	Murkowski	Dodd	Moseley-Braun				
Coverdell	Nickles	Dorgan	Moynihan				
Craig	Roberts	Durbin	Murray				
D'Amato	Roth	Feingold	Reed				
DeWine	Santorum	Feinstein	Reid				
Domenici	Sessions	Ford	Robb				
Enzi	Shelby	Glenn	Rockefeller				
Faircloth	Smith, Bob	Graham	Sarbanes				
Frist	Smith, Gordon	Harkin	Torricelli				
Gorton	Snowe	Hollings	Wellstone				
Gramm	Specter		Wyden				
Grams	Stevens						
Grassley	Thomas						
Gregg	Thompson						
Hagel	Thurmond						
Hatch	Warner						
Helms							

EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE:

- 1—Official Buisiness
- 2—Necessarily Absent
- 3—Illness
- 4—Other

SYMBOLS:

- AY—Announced Yea
- AN—Announced Nay
- PY—Paired Yea
- PN—Paired Nay

Compiled and written by the staff of the Republican Policy Committee—Larry E. Craig, Chairman